

Chapter 15.08**DEFINITIONS**

(2491-7/81, 2708-12/84, 3037-5/90)

Sections:**15.08.010 Definitions**

Abandonment and Properly Abandoned Well
Approved Type and Approved Design
Blowout Preventer
Cellar
Completion of Drilling, Redrilling and Rework
Department
Derrick
Desertion
Developed Area
Division of Oil and Gas
Drilling
Drilling Equipment
Drill Site
Enhanced Recovery
Fluids
Gas
Injection Well
Lessee
Lessor
Maintenance
Multiple Well Site
New Well
Oil Field Recovery Heater
Oil Operation
Oil Operation Site
Operator
Outer Boundary Line
Owner
Processing
Redrill
Reworking
Source of Ignition
Subsidence
Sump
Tank
Well
Well Servicing

15.08.010 Definitions. The terms used in this title shall, unless the context indicates otherwise, have the respective meanings herein set forth. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Abandonment. "Abandonment" shall mean operations on any well which will bring the well to the level of compliance defined below under "Properly Abandoned Well," and the cleaning and restoration of the well site as required by the Huntington Beach Oil Code. (3037-5/90)

- (a) **Properly Abandoned Well.** A well is properly abandoned when it has been shown to the satisfaction of the State Oil and Gas Supervisor that all proper steps have been taken to isolate all oil-bearing and gas-bearing strata encountered in the well, to protect underground or

surface water suitable for irrigation or farm or domestic purposes from the infiltration or addition of any detrimental substance, and to prevent subsequent damage to life, health, property, and other resources, and when, to the satisfaction of the Fire Chief, the site has been restored according to the provisions set forth in this code. (3037-5/90)

Approved Type and Approved Design. "Approved type" and "approved design" shall mean and include improvements, equipment or facilities of a type or design approved by the Community Development Department, Fire Department, or Public Works Department. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Blowout Preventer. "Blowout preventer" shall mean a mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic or other device or combination of such devices, secured to the top of a well casing, including valves, fittings, and control mechanism connected therewith which can be closed around the drill pipe or other tubular goods which completely closes the top of the casing and is designed for preventing blowout. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Cellar. "Cellar" shall mean an excavation around and above the top joint of the casing of a well. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Completion of Drilling, Redrilling and Reworking. Drilling, redrilling and reworking is completed for the purpose of these regulations thirty (30) days after the drilling, redrilling or reworking crew has been released through completion of its work or released by those so employing said crew. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Department. "Department," unless specified otherwise in this title, shall mean the Fire Department. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Derrick. "Derrick" shall mean any portable framework, tower, mast, or structure which is required or used in connection with drilling, reworking, operating, or maintaining a well for the production of oil, gas, or other hydrocarbons from the earth. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Desertion. "Desertion" shall mean the cessation of operation at a drill site without compliance with the provisions of this title relating to suspended operations, idle wells, or abandonment. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Developed Area. "Developed area" shall mean:

- (a) Any area within 150 feet of an occupied residential, commercial, or office/professional structure which is itself within one hundred (100) feet of another occupied residential, commercial, or office/professional structure; or
- (b) Any area within a public park, beach or recreation area which has been developed and opened for public use. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Division of Oil and Gas. "Division of Oil and Gas" shall mean the Division of Oil and Gas of the Department of Conservation of the State of California. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Drilling. "Drilling" shall mean digging or boring for the purpose of exploring for, developing, or producing oil, gas, or other hydrocarbons, or for the purpose of injecting water, steam or any other fluid or substance into the earth. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Drilling Equipment. "Drilling equipment" shall mean the derrick, together with all parts of and appurtenances to such structure, every piece of apparatus, machinery, or equipment used or erected or maintained for use in connection with drilling. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Drill site. "Drill site" shall mean the premises used during the drilling or reworking of a well or wells located thereon. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Enhanced Recovery. "Enhanced recovery" shall mean any production method which involves the injection of water, gas, steam, or any other substance into the earth for the purpose of extracting oil or other hydrocarbons. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Fluids. "Fluids" shall mean any gas or liquid. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Gas. "Gas" shall mean any fluid, either combustible or noncombustible, which is produced in a natural state from the earth and which maintains a gaseous or rarefied state at standard temperature and pressure conditions. It shall also mean the gaseous components or vapors occurring in or derived from petroleum or natural gas. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Injection Well. "Injection Well" shall mean a well or gas well used for the purpose of injecting water, waste water, brine, hydrocarbons, steam or any other substance as a means of enhanced recovery, repressurization or disposal whether under pressure, gravity, or vacuum. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Lessee. "Lessee" shall mean the person who has executed an oil or gas lease or sublease, or the owner of the land or minerals, or his heirs, or who conducts or carries on any oil or gas exploration, development and operation thereof, or any person so operating for himself or others. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Lessor. "Lessor" shall mean the owner of surface or mineral rights who has executed a lease. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Maintenance. "Maintenance" shall mean and include the repair or replacement of machinery, equipment, apparatus, structure, facility, and parts thereof, used in connection with an oil operation site or drill site as well as any other work necessary to reduce fire hazards or any hazards to employees, public health, safety and welfare. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Multiple Well Site. "Multiple Well Site" shall mean two (2) or more wells within a fenced surface area primarily used for the drilling and production of oil. Where two (2) wells are separated by a developable parcel, they will be considered separate sites unless both are enclosed by the same perimeter fence. (2708-12/84, 3037-5/90)

New well. "New Well" shall mean a new well bore or well hole established at the ground surface and shall not include redrilling or reworking of an existing well. An abandoned well shall be considered a new well for purposes of drilling, redrilling, or reworking. (2491-7/81, 2708-12/84, 3037-5/90)

Oil Field Recovery Heater. "Oil Field Recovery Heater" shall mean any steam generator, or air or water heater used in an oil field thermal recovery operation. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Oil Operation. "Oil Operation" shall mean the use or maintenance of any installation, facility or structure used, either directly or indirectly, to carry out or facilitate one or more of the following functions: drilling, redrilling, reworking and repair, production, processing, extraction, enhanced recovery, stimulation, abandonment, storage or shipping of oil or gas from the subsurface of the earth. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Oil Operation Site. "Oil Operation Site" shall mean the physical location where oil operations are conducted except for any portion of the property which the surface owner is actively using for another purpose. (2491-7/81, 2708-12/84, 3037-5/90)

Operator. "Operator" shall mean any person drilling, maintaining, operating, pumping, or in control of any well. However, if the operator, as herein defined, is different from the lessee under an oil or gas lease of any premises affected by the provisions of this title, then such lessee shall also be deemed to be an operator. In the event that there is no oil or gas lease relating to any

premises affected by this title, the owner of the fee estate in the premises shall also be deemed an operator. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Outer Boundary Line. Where several contiguous parcels of land in one or different ownerships are operated as a single oil or gas lease or operating unit, the term "outer boundary line" shall mean the exterior limits of the land included in the lease or unit. In determining the contiguity of any such parcel of land, no street, road or alley lying within the lease or unit shall be deemed to interrupt such contiguity. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Owner. "Owner" shall mean a person who owns a legal or equitable title in and to the surfaces of the drill site or oil operation site. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Processing. "Processing" shall mean the use of oil operations for gauging, recycling, compressor repressuring, injection, reinjection, dehydration, stimulation, separation (including but not limited to, separation of liquids from gas), shipping and transportation, and the gathering of oil, gas, other hydrocarbon substances, water or any combination thereof. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Redrill. "Redrill" shall mean recompletion of an existing well by deepening or sidetrack operations extending more than 150 feet from the existing well bore. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Reworking. "Reworking" shall mean recompletion of an existing well within the existing bore hole or by deepening or sidetrack operations which do not extend more than 150 feet from the existing well bore, or replacement of well liners or casings. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Source of Ignition. "Source of Ignition" shall mean any flame, arc, spark or heated object or surface capable of igniting liquids, gases or vapors. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Subsidence. "Subsidence" shall mean the settling or sinking of the ground surface. (3037-5/90)

Sump. "Sump" shall mean any surface impoundment or excavated depression in the ground, lined or unlined, that is used for separating crude oil or other organic liquids, water, or solids. Sumps shall be classified as follows: (3037-5/90)

- (a) **Primary Or First Stage Production Sump** is any sump which receives a stream of crude oil and produced water directly from oil production wells, field gathering systems, or tank systems. (3037-5/90)
- (b) **Secondary Or Second Stage Sump** is any sump which receives a waste water stream from one or more primary sumps, a free water knockout device, a wash tank, or from intermittent or emergency streams. (3037-5/90)
- (c) **Tertiary Or Third Stage Sump** is any sump which receives a waste water stream from the secondary sump or other separation process upstream of the tertiary sump. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Tank. "Tank" shall mean a container, covered or uncovered, used in conjunction with the drilling or production of oil, gas, or other hydrocarbons for holding or storing fluids. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Well. "Well" shall mean any oil or gas well or well drilled for the production of oil or gas, or any well reasonably presumed to contain oil or gas. "Well" shall include injection wells used for the purpose of enhanced recovery, repressurization of the field, and disposal wells for the purpose of disposing of waste water. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)

Well Servicing. "Well Servicing" shall mean the maintenance work performed within any existing well bore which does not involve drilling, redrilling or reworking. (2491-7/81, 3037-5/90)